Anticorruption action continues in the mainland. A former top military officer will be prosecuted while his major general son is being probed. Guo Boxiong, 73, was a vice chairman of the powerful Central Military Commission until he stepped down in 2012. His old age and ill health did not help him escape prosecution.

Xinhua News Agency reported that Guo abused his position “to seek promotion and other benefits for others and accepted bribes personally or through his family” and that “his acts seriously violated the Communist Party’s discipline and had a vile (惡劣的) impact.”

President Xi Jinping is widening his campaign against deep-rooted graft and unrelenting action against corruption can be described as “窮追猛打” (qiong2 zhui1 meng3 da3).

“窮” (qiong2) is “to pursue to the limit,” “追” (zhui1) is “to chase after,” “猛” (meng3) means “fierce” and “打” (da3) is “to hit.”

Literally “窮追猛打” (qiong2 zhui1 meng3 da3) is “pursue to the limit, chase after, fiercely hit.”

The meaning is actually quite clear. The idiom means to hotly pursue and fiercely attack.

It can be used to describe the action of an army determined to root out and destroy its enemy, or the persistent efforts of law enforcement agencies in bringing criminals to justice.

The character “窮” (qiong2) also means “poor.” “貧窮” (pin2 qiong2) and “窮困” (qiong2 kun4) both mean poor, needy or poverty-stricken. But it is an insult to call a poor person “窮鬼” (qiong2 gui3) or “窮光蛋” (qiong2 guang1 dan4), because these terms mean “poor devil” and “penniless good-for-nothing” respectively.

Terms containing the character “猛” (meng3) include:

- 勇猛 (yong3 meng3) - fearless
- 凶猛 (xiong1 meng3) - fierce, ferocious
- 猛獸 (meng3 shou4) - beasts of prey
- 猛火 (meng3 huo3) - hot fire

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

Tetrad-code answer is available upon request by email tsoww@tsoww.com